

DOG RIVER PARK COMMITTEE

Minutes of June 9, 2021

I. Roll Call

- a. Members in attendance: Bonnie Kirn Donahue, Kim Adams, Simon Pearish, Russ Barrett, Laura Hill-Eubanks (non-voting)
- b. Also attending: Diane McKain

II. Set/Adjust Agenda

- a. 4/14/2021 Minutes
 - i. No changes, Motioned for approval by Russ, seconded by Kim, Approved 4-0-0
- b. 5/12/2021 Minutes
 - i. No changes, Motioned for approval by Russ, seconded by Kim, Approved 4-0-0
- c. 5/28/2021 Minutes
 - i. Kim motioned to approve with a change to section III.a.ii. Current text should be changed to “Four benches with commemorative plaques to be placed in Dog River Park”, Russ seconded, Approved 4-0-0

III. Approval of Minutes (April & May)

IV. Discussion

- a. Member Updates
 - i. Russ - A trash can has been installed at the pavilion. It is a large black plastic barrel with a revolving lid.
 - ii. Bonnie – Michele Braun (Friends of the Winooski River) would like to collaborate with the committee...
 - 1. ...On a Site Stewardship Program initiative that would organize volunteers to do conservation work in several of the locations that have been helped by FOTWR, including the Dog River Park. There is potential for overlap between this initiative and the Landscape Maintenance Plan that the Dog River Park Committee is preparing.

2. ...On the ecological signage that is being planned for the park by the FOTWR via a grant from the Lake Champlain Basin Program. Simon and Russ were appointed to meet with Michele about this.

b. DRPC Work Day – June 11, 2021

- i. On Friday, June 11 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, the Dog River Park Committee and the Northfield Gardeners 2021 will be working together to do weeding and other landscaping maintenance at the Dog River Park and are inviting members of the community to help.
- ii. Simon will ask Town Manager Schulz permission to use the flame weeder on the hardpack paths.

c. Plaques

- i. Suggested text for the plaques that will be applied to the benches and pavilion was provided by Kim and Diane.

The plaques on the four benches would be:

1. With Appreciation to the Northfield High School Class of '57 and other Alumni
2. With Appreciation to the Chouinard Family
3. With Appreciation to the Northfield Rotary
4. With Appreciation to the Northfield Garden Club and Conservation Commission

The pavilion would have a small plaque saying “ With Appreciation to the Ritzer Crew”

and the larger plaque on the crossbeam would read:

With gratitude to the Northfield Community who supported this Dog River Park through their time and generosity. We dedicate this park to the many families who lost their homes and property in Hurricane Irene in 2011.

The lettering on the main pavilion plaque needs to be large enough so it can be read easily.

- ii. Russ makes a motion to approve the plaque text as written (pending approval from Town Manager Schulz).
- iii. The committee discussed the different materials that could be used for the plaques. The plaque makers recommend plastic but the committee and Diane are very interested in seeing a sample before choosing plastic over metal.

d. Irene Event

- i. 2021 is the ten-year anniversary of Tropical Storm Irene. The committee discussed how it could be involved in recognizing the impact of this natural disaster on the community.
- ii. Simon is working on a project to help the community share its experience of Tropical Storm Irene with funding from the Lake Champlain Basin Program. Committee members suggested collecting stories about community members' experiences, assembling them, and sharing them at a later time.

V. Public Participation (unscheduled)

VI. Adjournment

- a. Russ motions to adjourn, Simon seconds, 3-0-0